



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 187

February Session, 2018

Substitute House Bill No. 5302

House of Representatives, April 4, 2018

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through REP. VERRENGIA of the 20th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC BATHROOMS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) On or before January 1,
- 2 2019, the State Building Inspector and the Codes and Standards
- 3 Committee shall amend the State Building Code, in accordance with
- 4 the provisions of section 29-252b of the general statutes, concerning
- 5 bathrooms that are open to the public. Such amendments shall provide
- 6 for the installation of at least one wall-mounted grab bar and one drop-
- 7 down grab bar to assist persons with disabilities in such bathrooms
- 8 located in buildings that qualify as new construction or undergo
- 9 substantial rehabilitation.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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PS Joint Favorable Subst.

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 19 \$	FY 20 \$
Treasurer, Debt Serv.	GF - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 19 \$	FY 20 \$
Various Municipalities	STATE MANDATE - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill, which modifies the requirements for bathrooms under the State Building Code, has the potential to increase costs to the state and municipalities. The cost will vary based on: 1) the number of grab bars that must be installed for new construction and rehabilitation projects, and 2) the cost of installing the bars. The timing of the impact is also dependent on the method of financing the construction (e.g., the timing for projects using bond funds will be different than projects financed using operating funds).

Many of the state's construction projects are paid for using General Obligation (GO) bonds. The bill does not change GO bond authorizations. To the extent that the requirements of the bill increase costs of state construction projects, and to the degree that the amendment causes authorized GO bond funds to be expended more rapidly than they otherwise would have been, future General Fund debt service costs may be incurred sooner.

Additionally, there is a similar cost to municipalities to the extent that the bill's provisions increase the cost of construction and rehabilitation projects in municipalities.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5302*****AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC BATHROOMS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the State Building Inspector and the Codes and Standards Committee, by January 1, 2019, to amend the State Building Code to require public bathrooms to have at least one wall-mounted grab bar and one drop-down grab bar to assist those with disabilities. The requirement applies to new construction and buildings being substantially rehabilitated.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 24 Nay 1 (03/16/2018)